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REMARKS

Claims 3-9 are pending, with claims 3 and 5 being in independent form. Dependent claims 6-9 were added by the Amendment filed on February 20, 2006.

The May 19, 2006 Office Communication stated that the February 20, 2006 Amendment was purportedly not fully responsive to the prior Office Action (November 25, 2005) since newly added claims 6-9 are not discussed in relation to the cited art (Kawamura). Claims 3-5 were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,075,920 to Kawamura et al.

As an initial matter, it is noted that claims 6 and 7 depend from claim 5, and claims 8 and 9 depend from claim 3. As pointed out in the reply filed on February 20, 2006, the reasons why independent claims 3 and 5 are allowable over the cited art are applicable also to claims depending from claims 3 and 5.

Further, the November 25, 2005 Office Action stated that the elements (such as element 9) proposed by Kawamura for generating subcode components which are delivered to the subcode encoder 11 constitute toggle generating portions. However, although the stream of subcode components generated by such elements may change from a field of bits to a different field of bits, such elements of Kawamura do not generate toggling data in which the state of the toggling data alternates between a high state and a low state at a predetermined period, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 5 of the present application, or durations of the high and low states, respectively, of the toggling data correspond to the predetermined period, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 6 of the present application. In addition, Kawamura does not disclose or suggest that the data selected by the selecting portion is used to generate encode subcode P data, as provided by the claimed

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invention of claim 7 of the present application.

Further, the command from the control unit proposed by Kamamura is never stored, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 3 of the present application, and Kawamura does not disclose or suggest that each first command triggers automatic generation of two or more subcode component data, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 8 of the present application.

In addition, the Examiner equated element 9 which is controlled by control unit 20 proposed by Kawamura to a first generating portion, and equated the control unit 20 of Kawamura to a second generating portion. However, Kawamura does not disclose or suggest that the first and second generating portions operate independently, and the first generating portion continues to generate automatically the subcode component data which indicates the time information even when the second generating portion is not automatically generating the additional subcode component data which indicates the information other than the time information, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 9 of the present application.

In view of the remarks hereinabove, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

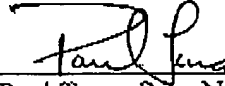
If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is

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respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Teng", is written over a horizontal line.

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